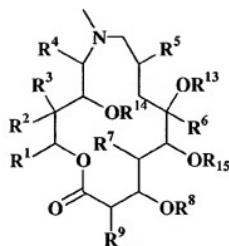


Amendments to the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-20 (Cancelled)

Claim 21 (Currently Amended) A compound according to the formula II below:



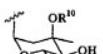
R1 is selected from:

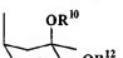
- H, CH₃, C₂H₅
- an alpha-branched C₃-C₈ group selected from alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, alkoxyalkyl and alkylthioalkyl groups any of which may be optionally substituted by one or more hydroxyl groups;
- a C₅-C₈ cycloalkylalkyl group wherein the alkyl group is an alpha-branched C₂-C₅ alkyl group
- a C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl group or C₅-C₈ cycloalkenyl group, either of which may optionally be substituted by one or more hydroxyl, or one or more C₁-C₄ alkyl groups or halo atoms
- a 3 to 6 membered oxygen or sulphur containing heterocyclic ring which may be saturated, or fully or partially unsaturated and which may optionally be substituted by one or more C₁-C₄ alkyl groups, halo atoms or hydroxyl groups
- phenyl which may be optionally substituted with at least one substituent selected from C₁-C₄ alkyl, C₁-C₄ alkoxy, and C₁-C₄ alkylthio groups, halogen atoms, trifluoromethyl, and cyano or
- R¹⁷-CH₂- where R¹⁷ is H, C₁-C₈ alkyl, C₂-C₈ alkenyl, C₂-C₈ alkynyl, alkoxyalkyl or alkylthioalkyl containing from 1 to 6 carbon atoms in each alkyl or alkoxy group wherein any of said alkyl, alkoxy, alkenyl or alkynyl groups may

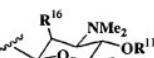
be substituted by one or more hydroxyl groups or by one or more halo atoms; or a C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl or C₅-C₈ cycloalkenyl either of which may be optionally substituted by one or more C₁-C₄ alkyl groups or halo atoms; or a 3 to 6 membered oxygen or sulphur containing heterocyclic ring which may be saturated or fully or partially unsaturated and which may optionally be substituted by one or more C₁-C₄ alkyl groups or halo atoms; or a group of the formula SA₁₆ wherein A₁₆ is C₁-C₈ alkyl, C₂-C₈ alkenyl, C₂-C₈ alkynyl, C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl, C₅-C₈ cycloalkenyl, phenyl or substituted phenyl wherein the substituent is C₁-C₄ alkyl, C₁-C₄ alkoxy or halo, or a 3 to 6 membered oxygen or sulphur-containing heterocyclic ring which may be saturated, or fully or partially unsaturated and which may optionally be substituted by one or more C₁-C₄ alkyl groups or halo atoms

R², R⁴, R⁵, R⁶, R⁷ and R⁹ are each independently H, OH, CH₃, C₂H₅ or OCH₃

R³=H or OH


R⁸ = H, , rhamnose, 2'-O-methyl rhamnose, 2',3'-bis-O-methyl rhamnose, 2',3',4'-tri-O-methyl rhamnose, olcandrose, oliose, digitoxose, olivose or angulosamine;
R¹⁰= H or CH₃ or C(=O)R_A , where R_A = C₁-C₆ alkyl, C₂-C₆ alkenyl or C₂-C₆ alkynyl


R¹¹ = H, , mycarose, C₄-O-acyl-mycarose or glucose
R¹²= H or C(=O)R_A , where R_A = C₁-C₆ alkyl, C₂-C₆ alkenyl or C₂-C₆ alkynyl
R¹³ = H or CH₃


R¹⁵ = H or OH
R¹⁶ = H or OH
R¹⁴ = H or -C(=O)NR^cR^d -C(O)NR^cR^d wherein each of R^c and R^d is independently H, C₁-C₁₀ alkyl, C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl, C₂-C₁₀ alkynyl, -(CH₂)_m(C₆-C₁₀ aryl), or (CH₂)_m(5-10 membered heteroaryl), wherein m is an integer ranging from 0 to 4, and wherein each of the foregoing R^c and R^d groups, except H, may be substituted by 1 to 3 Q groups; or wherein R^c and R^d may be taken together to form a 4-7 membered saturated ring or a 5-10 membered heteroaryl ring, wherein said saturated and heteroaryl rings may include 1 or 2 heteroatoms selected from O, S and N, in addition to the nitrogen to which R^c and R^d are

attached, and said saturated ring may include 1 or 2 carbon-carbon double or triple bonds, and said saturated and heteroaryl rings may be substituted by 1 to 3 Q groups; or R² and R¹⁷ taken together form a carbonate ring;

each Q is independently selected from halo, cyano, nitro, trifluoromethyl, azido, -C(O)Q¹, -OC(O)Q¹, -C(O)OOQ¹, -OC(O)OQ¹, NQ²C(O)Q³, -C(O)NQ²Q³, -NQ²Q³, hydroxy, C₁-C₆ alkyl, C₁-C₆ alkoxy, (CH₂)_m(C₆-C₁₀ aryl), and - (CH₂)_m(5-10 membered heteroaryl), wherein m is an integer ranging from 0 to 4, and wherein said aryl and heteroaryl substituents may be substituted by 1 or 2 substituents independently selected from halo, cyano, nitro, trifluoromethyl, azido, -C(O)Q¹, -C(O)OOQ¹, -OC(O)OOQ¹, -NQ²C(O)Q³, -C(O)NQ²Q³, -NQ²Q³, hydroxy, C₁-C₆ alkyl, and C₁-C₆ alkoxy;

each Q¹, Q² and Q³ is independently selected from H, OH, C₁-C₁₀ alkyl, C₁-C₆ alkoxy, C₂-C₁₀ alkyl, C₂-C₁₀ alkynyl, -(CH₂)_m(C₆-C₁₀ aryl), and -(CH₂)_m(5-10 membered heteroaryl), wherein m is an integer ranging from 0 to 4;

or said compound is a variant of any of the above in which the -CHOR¹⁴- at C12 is replaced by a methylene group (-CH₂-), a keto group (C=O), or by a 11, 12-olefinic bond;

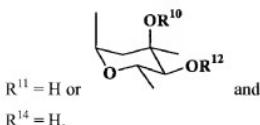
~~or said compound is a variant of any of the above which differs in the oxidation state of one or more of the ketide units, wherein said ketide unit is selected from the group consisting of: CO, CH(OH), alkene CH₂, and CH₃)~~

with the proviso that when R⁸ is H, R¹⁵ cannot also be H.

Claims 22-26 (Cancelled)

Claim 27 (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 21, wherein: R², R⁴, R⁵, R⁶, R⁷ and R⁹ are all CH₃.

Claim 28 (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 27, wherein



Claims 29-30 (Cancelled)

Claim 31 (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 21, wherein R¹ = C₂H₅.

Claim 32 (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 27, wherein R¹=C₂H₅.

Claim 33 (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 21, wherein R³=OH.

Claim 34 (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 27, wherein R³=OH.

Claim 35 (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 31, wherein R³=OH.

Claim 36 (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 32, wherein R³=OH.

Claim 37 (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 21, wherein R⁸=angolosamine.

Claim 38 (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 27, wherein R⁸=angolosamine.

Claim 39 (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 31, wherein R⁸=angolosamine.

Claim 40 (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 32, wherein R⁸=angolosamine.

Claim 41 (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 33, wherein R⁸=angolosamine.

Claim 42 (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 34, wherein R⁸=angolosamine.

Claim 43 (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 35, wherein R⁸=angolosamine.

Claim 44 (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 36, wherein R⁸=angolosamine.

Claim 45 (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 21, wherein R¹³, R¹⁴, and R¹⁵ are all H.

Claim 46 (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 27, wherein R¹³, R¹⁴, and R¹⁵ are all H.

Claim 47 (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 31, wherein R¹³, R¹⁴, and R¹⁵ are all H.

Claim 48 (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 32, wherein R¹³, R¹⁴, and R¹⁵ are all H.

Claim 49 (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 33, wherein R¹³, R¹⁴, and R¹⁵ are all H.

Claim 50 (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 34, wherein R¹³, R¹⁴, and R¹⁵ are all H.

Claim 51 (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 35, wherein R¹³, R¹⁴, and R¹⁵ are all H.

Claim 52 (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 36, wherein R¹³, R¹⁴, and R¹⁵ are all H.

Claim 53 (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 37, wherein R¹³, R¹⁴, and R¹⁵ are all H.

Claim 54 (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 38, wherein R¹³, R¹⁴, and R¹⁵ are all H.

Claim 55 (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 39, wherein R¹³, R¹⁴, and R¹⁵ are all H.

Claim 56 (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 40, wherein R¹³, R¹⁴, and R¹⁵ are all H.

Claim 57 (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 41, wherein R¹³, R¹⁴, and R¹⁵ are all H.

Claim 58 (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 42, wherein R¹³, R¹⁴, and R¹⁵ are all H.

Claim 59 (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 43, wherein R¹³, R¹⁴, and R¹⁵ are all H.

Claim 60 (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 44, wherein R¹³, R¹⁴, and R¹⁵ are all H.